

~~DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY~~

As the below-named inventor, I hereby state and declare as follows:

My residence, post office address and citizenship is stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and only inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention and application entitled, "UTILITY APRON FOR CONTAINERS," the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendments referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATIONS

COUNTRY
PRIORITY CLAIM

APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING DATE

			Yes ___ No ___
			Yes ___ No ___
			Yes ___ No ___

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120, of any United States application(s) listed below and, to the extent the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35 United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

APPLICATION NUMBER FILING DATE STATUS
(Patented, Pending, Abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein are of my own knowledge, are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint Stephen T. Sullivan, Reg. No. 32,444, as my attorney with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please direct all correspondence as follows:

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INVENTOR

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Post Office Address: Same

Date: 7/28/97

Citizenship: Canada

Extra page(s) attached STEPHEN T. SULLIVAN

Applicants: Andrea F. Bell
Serial No.: Unassigned
Filed: July 28, 1997
For: "UTILITY APRON FOR CONTAINERS"

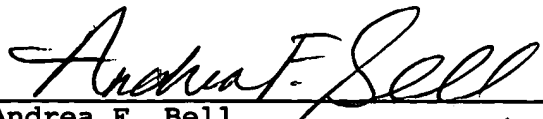
VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(INDEPENDENT INVENTOR)

I, Andrea F. Bell, the named inventor for the referenced patent application and the owner of the entire right, title and interest in the application by assignment, hereby declare under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27(b) that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled: "UTILITY APRON FOR CONTAINERS."

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, and I am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(d), or to a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(e).

I acknowledge the duty to file, in connection with this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in the loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b).)

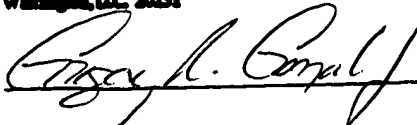
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statement may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.



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Date: July 28, 1997

Express Mail Label No. EM35324007145
Date of Deposit 7/28/97 I hereby certify that
this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal
Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service
under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is
addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D.C. 20231



2025 JUL 28 10 00 AM '97